

**Closing Worship**

Installation of Pastor Leslie Welton

September 21, 2017

**GATHERING  
Hymn of Regathering:** Gather Us In

**Greeting**

**Jim***:* **We gather in this holy place, celebrating the Name of God the Father, and Jesus the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.**  
C: Amen.

**Confession**

**P: Turning back to God, we bow our hearts with one voice in confession of   
 our sin.**

*Silence is held in reflection*

**P: Holy LORD, righteous God, merciful Father…**  
C: We confess that we come to You with unclean hearts and broken spirits. We are convicted by our sin against You and Your creation in thought, word and deed. We have not loved You above all things. We have not given the love to our neighbor that we crave for ourselves. Draw near again to us Heavenly Father, receiving us with the tender mercy and granting safe refuge in Your forgiving grace. Pour out upon us an abundance of Your compassion, and restore us to Your joy. Amen.

**P: God, according to His promise, forgives us all our sins; and in the authority of God’s Word and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I declare to you that God, through His grace, has forgiven us all our sins; in the Name of God the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.**   
C:Amen.

**Hymn of Renewal:** I’ve Been Redeemed

**Prayer of the Day**

Eric: ***Let us pray. Heavenly Father, shepherd of Your people…***

C:We thank You for all Your servants who are faithful in the care and nurture of Your flock. We pray that by following the example set forth by Your Son Jesus, and the teaching of His holy life, we may by Your grace grow in maturity of faith and love for Your church. This we pray through Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*(The congregation is seated)*

**WORD**

First Reading: Amelia Decker *Romans 10:5-15*  
Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that ‘the person who does these things will live by them.’ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, ‘Do not say in your heart, “Who will ascend into heaven?” ’ (that is, to bring Christ down) ‘or “Who will descend into the abyss?” ’ (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?  
 ‘The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart’  
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, ‘No one who believes in him will be put to shame.’ For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’

*(Congregation stands)***Hymn of Rejoicing:** Psalm 27

**Sarah: Hear now the Holy Gospel for this worship of our God, according to St. Matthew, from within the 28th chapter.**  
Glory to You, O LORD.

**(Matthew 28:16-20) Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”**

**This for us today, in our presence, is the Gospel of our LORD.**  
Praise to You, O Christ!

**Sermon:** Permission and Commission The Rev. Sarah Ciavarri

**Hymn of Response:** We are Called

**Jim:****I Invite you to stand as you are able, for we confess our faith as God’s holy disciples, proclaiming the Apostles’ Creed.**

C: I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell, and on the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*(Congregation is seated)*

**Installation of Pastor Leslie Welton**

**Presentation**

**Bishop Gonia:** **Having been authorized by the church to install Leslie Welton, our co-worker in the gospel, as Assistant to the Bishop for Faith Formation and Candidacy, I now ask for certification of this call.**

**Earline Bohling, Vice-President**: After prayerful deliberation, we, of the Rocky Mountain Synod Council, have called Leslie Welton as Assistant to the Bishop for Faith Formation and Candidacy. I present her and this letter certifying the call.

**Address and Questions**

**Eric: A reading from John: Jesus said, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” (John 20:21-23)**

**A reading from Matthew: Jesus said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18-20)**

**A reading from First Timothy: Set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Attend to the public reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers. (1 Timothy 4:12-16)**

**B: Leslie, in the presence of this assembly will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility, in the confidence that it comes from God through the call of the church?**

I will, and I ask God to help me.

**Will you preach and teach in accordance with the holy scriptures and with the confessions of the Lutheran church? Will you carry out this ministry in harmony with the constitutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?**

I will, and I ask God to help me.

**Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures and in your use of the means of grace? Will you love, serve, and pray for God’s people, nourish them with the word and sacraments, and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living?**

I will, and I ask God to help me.

**Will you give faithful witness in the world, that God’s love may be known in all that you do?**

I will, and I ask God to help me.

**Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.**

*The assembly responds:*

**Amen.**

*The assembly stands.*

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

**People of God, will you receive Leslie as a messenger of Jesus Christ sent to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation? Will you regard her a servant of Christ and a steward of the mysteries of God?**

**We will, and we ask God to help us.**

**Will you pray for her help and honor her for her work’s sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?**

**We will, and we ask God to help us.**

*The presiding minister addresses the pastor being installed.*

**Leslie, the office of Assistant to the Bishop for Faith Formation and Candidacy is now committed to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

**Blessing**

*The newly installed pastor may kneel as the presiding minister proclaims God’s blessing.*

**The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God’s will, working in you that which is pleasing in God’s sight;through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.**

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister may address the assembly with these or similar words.*

**People of God, I present to you Leslie Welton, Assistant to the Bishop for Faith Formation and Candidacy. Let us welcome her in the name of Christ.**

**We continue with the prayers of the people** (Led by musicians)

**Prayers of the People  
 Song:** We Lift Up

Leslie: **The peace of the LORD be with you all!**A: And also with you!

*(The peace of God is shared)*

**Offering***Offering this morning will support the Ministry Excellence Fund.*

*(Congregation stands)* **Hymn of Returning:** There are Many Ways of Sharing

**P: God of all creation,**  
A: all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, Our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**MEAL**

**P:The LORD be with you**.  
A: And also with you.

**P: Lift up your hearts.**  
A: We lift them to the LORD.

**P:Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.**  
A: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

**P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to You, almighty and merciful God, through the great shepherd of Your flock, our Savior Jesus Christ; who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles to preach the gospel and teach all nations, and promised to be with them, even to the end of the age. And so with the glorious company of all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn.**  
A: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

**P:In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus the Christ took bread, gave thanks, broke it , and gave it to his disciples saying “Take and eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.”**

**Again, after supper, He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it for all to drink, saying “This cup is a new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of Me.”**

**Together, as disciples, as family, as Church, we pray…**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not in to temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

**Come to the LORD’s table, for these are the gifts of God, for we the children of God.**   
Amen.

**Distribution**  
*2 stations for intinction- all bread is gluten-free, wine is red, grape juice is white.*  
**Songs during Communion**  
 Sanctuary  
 Christ You Often Sat at Dinner  
 Grace Like Rain

**Communion Blessing**

**P: And now may these gifts of God – both Word and flesh – strengthen you and keep you in His grace.**A: Amen.

**Affirmation of Christian Vocation**

**Reflections by Jim**Jim: **Beloved in Christ, both your work and your rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, at morning and evening, at work and at play, all the days of your life?**   
A: I will, and I ask God to help me.

**P: Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit you have knit these your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ. Look with favor upon them in their commitment to serve in Christ’s name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
A: Amen.

**Hymn of Resending**: Light of the World

Eric: **Go in peace to love and serve the LORD!  
A:** Thanks be to God! Amen!

*(Postlude)*